

HALF CENT SALES TAX FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Why is a Half Cent Sales Tax a solution for our roadways and recreation?

- Population growth in Hernando County has led to congestion on our roadways and in our parks
- A sales tax would give Hernando County the necessary money to improve and expand our current roads and recreation areas in our local parks
- A sales tax would also be a more fair way to ensure that all residents of Hernando County and visitors to the County contribute to the enhancement of our community

Why not Gas Tax?

- Despite rising gas prices, revenue generated from the gas tax remains relatively constant
- Gas tax is assessed by gallon and not by dollar amounts, therefore, gas tax revenue does not increase with rising gas prices
- Construction costs have continued to increase with the same constant revenue from the gas tax leading to a lack of funding for Hernando County's Roadway and Recreation Projects

Who will pay the Half Cent Sales Tax?

- Goods such as medication, fuel, and groceries would be exempt from the half cent sales tax
- Tourists and visitors to the County will account for 30% of the annual funding from the half cent sales tax
- The half cent sales tax will only be collected on the first \$5,000 of large purchases of tangible personal property

Where will the money from the Half Cent Sales Tax go?

- \$13.8 million annually from the half cent sales tax would go towards roadway and recreation improvements in Hernando County
- 80% of the proceeds from the sales tax will be utilized for roadway improvements and expansion
- 20% of the proceeds will go to improving our quality of life, specifically in the area of improving our existing parks and creating new recreation opportunities

How can I be sure that my money will be used to improve roads and recreation?

- Florida State law requires that any revenue generated from the sales tax be used on projects on the approved projects list which the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners approved on the February 22, 2022 County Commission Meeting
- A Citizen's Oversight Committee shall be created as a safeguard to ensure proper expenditures of funds once the Referendum is passed



HALF CENT SALES TAX PROJECT LIST



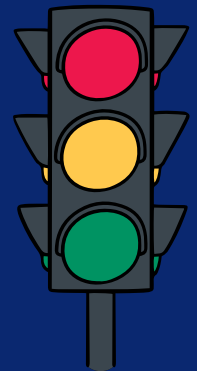
What recreation improvements will be made under the Half Cent Sales Tax?

- Weeki Wachee Preserve Park-ECO TOUR Boardwalks
- Aquatic Center
- Anderson Snow Splash Park
- Anderson Snow Recreation Center
- Anderson Snow Sports Field Expansion
- New Dog Parks (East Side and West Side)
- Kennedy Park Improvements
- Boat Ramps Improvements
- Ernie Weaver Park Improvements
- Lake Townsen Fishing Pier Replacement
- Sensitive Lands Public Access Improvements



What roadway improvements will be made under the Half Cent Sales Tax?

- Intersection Improvements/Congestion Management
- County Line Road Widening
- Barclay Avenue Widening
- Anderson Snow Road/Corporate Boulevard Improvements
- Sunshine Grove Road 4-Laning from Ken Austin Parkway to Hexam Road
- Lockhart Road from State Road 50 to Dashbach Street
- Kettering Road from State Road 50 to Power line Road



When will voters decide on the Half Cent Sales Tax?

- Election Day voting will take place on Tuesday, November 8, 2022
- Early voting for all Hernando County registered voters will begin on October 26, 2022 and end on November 5, 2022
- Mail-In Ballots can be requested online at www.HernandoVotes.gov or in-person at a Hernando County Supervisor of Elections Office



Potential to leverage **\$18M** in sales tax revenue & **transform** it into **\$46M** in grant awards.

Hernando County is currently tied for the **second lowest sales tax** rate in the entire state

It costs approximately **\$1 million** to mill and resurface **1 mile of road**

Approximately **30%** of all sales tax collected in the county is from **non-residents!**

If approved, a nonpartisan **oversight committee** of citizens would be formed



www.HernandoHalfCent.com